

3

Mr. ADDISON's
TRAVELS
THROUGH
ITALY,

Epitomiz'd :

With some Remarks thereon,
By Monsieur LE CLERC.

To which is Added,
An ACCOUNT of the
United PROVINCES
Of the NETHERLANDS,

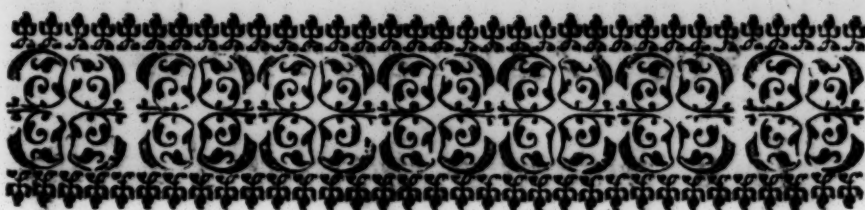
Chiefly with Regard to their TRADE
and RICHES; and a Particular
Account of the BANK of *Amsterdam.*

Done from the French by Mr. THEOBALD.

LONDON:

Printed for E. CURLL, at the Dial and
Bible, against St. Dunstan's Church in Fleet-
street. 1715.





T O

Eustace Budgell, Esq;

S I R,

 *H E N I consider'd
what a good Title you
have to the Esteem of
the Author so applaud-
ed by the following Remarks, the
least I could promise my self was,
your not being offended at my ad-
dressing to you any just Encomiums
on your Friend.*

A

It

The DEDICATION.

It is indeed a singular Felicity of the Great Spirits and bright Genius's of this Age, that they agree in owning and supporting the Merit of each other ; and form Friendships upon that very Foundation, which used to be the Cause of Envy and Disgust among the Wits of former Times.

*All the Writings of Mr. ADDISON have something in 'em so above the Pitch of modern Compositions, that they are as easy to be Distinguish'd from others, as they are impossible to be Imitated. You know, Sir, with what a nice Hand he has touch'd this common Theme of all Travellers : and that Italy, as he describes it, comes as
near*

The DEDICATION.

near to the Idea we have received of it from the best Latin Authors, as his own Latin Poems do to their most celebrated Originals.

No wonder then, that he has rais'd the Curiosity of Men of Taste to transfuse his Writings from one Language to another; and make them, even in his own Days, by a respect of the same kind, equal to the Dead Classicks; from whom he may justly be said to differ, as our MILTON does from their HOMER, propter mille annos.

Tho' I know, Sir, that you could bear any Truth in your Friend's Praises, if not with Pleasure from me, yet with Patience from any one; It would how-

THE DEDICATION.

however be too great a Presumption to attempt a Character of him to You, who know all his Excellencies so well, and can give so true a Judgment of them.

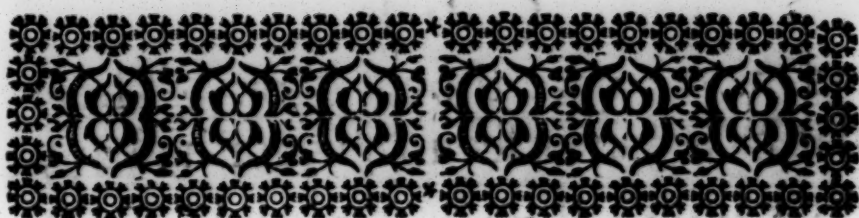
It will best become one of my Distance from those Attainments, to wish the World may long enjoy Two Genius's capable of Improving and Entertaining them so much ; and in particular, to profess my self, as I am,

S I R,

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant.

LEW. THEOBALD.



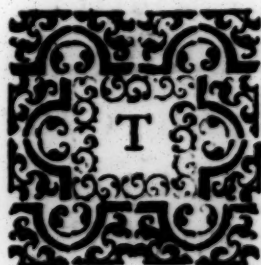
REMARKS

On several PARTS of

ITALY, &c.

In the YEARS 1701, 1702, 1703.

By JOSEPH ADDISON, Esq;



THOSE who have ever been in *Italy*, and the other Countries of which M'ADDISON here speaks, will, with a world of Pleasure, read his Book ; because it will serve to recall agreeably to their Minds what they have seen, and occasion them to make those Remarks on their Travels, which possibly they
B had

had never once thought of. Those that have never seen *Italy*, nor had any other Information of it than from the Reading of Travels, will not be less delighted here. For the Author has avoided the Repetition of what is to be met with in the other Books of this kind, as in BURNET, LASSELLS, RAY and MISSON; Every one of which have their peculiar Advantages, and to whom Mr. ADDISON, in his Preface, has not forgot to do all Justice. For his own Part, he has diligently avoided the Reciting of what others have already communicated to the Publick, and if he ever borrows their Matter, 'tis to improve it with additional Beauties. He has particularly studied to produce those Descriptions which the Ancient *Latin* Poets have given of the Places, Mountains, and Rivers which he passed; and he has translated such Descriptions into *English* Verse, that is no Ways inferior to the Original. His whole Relation is so neat, and so

curi-

curiously turn'd, that 'tis difficult to determine whether the Author writes best in Prose or Verse ; tho' he passes with Reason for one of the Greatest Poets which *England* at this time boasts : We cannot pretend further than to point out the Matters which this Work contains ; for to give the Reader a just Idea of them, we must lie under a Necessity of transcribing the whole.

I. Mr. ADDISON set out for *Marseilles* on the 12th of *December*, 1699. to go by Water to *Genoa* ; and was surpriz'd to find at a small Port of *Provence*, call'd *Cassis*, all sorts of Greens even in the Depth of Winter. He suspects, that it is here we must fix the *Cimmerians*, from whence *ULYSSES* descended to consult the Ghost of *TIRESIAS*. In effect, what * *CLAU-*

* Lib. 1. in *Rufin.*

DIAN says of the Scituation of this Coast, can be only applicable to this Place or its Neighbourhood ; supposing the Voyage of ULYSSES must be confin'd to the *Mediterranean*, and that on the Extremity of *France*, he had his Conversation with the Dead. If this Poet speaks of the Ocean, and *Great Britain*, as near to this Place, it is only to exaggerate the marvellous Extent of ULYSSES's Wanderings.

From thence the Author sail'd on to *Monaco* and *Genoa*, and he describes both the one and the other ; taking Notice that *Monaco* was formerly the Temple of HERCULES MONÆCUS ; and that the *Ligurians* at this Day are not less industrious and cunning than they were heretofore, on the Credit of VIRGIL, SILIUS ITALICUS, and AUSONIUS. He speaks of the Government of the Republick of *Genoa*, and compares their ancient Strength and Power with what they hold at this Day.

2. Our

2. Our Author describes, next, *Pavia* and *Milan*; and as he was obliged to pass the *Tesin*, that runs by *Pavia*, he takes Occasion to remark, that there is Room for Surprize, that this River, being extremely rapid, † *SILIUS ITALICUS* has spoke of it as of a River so gentle and still, that the Flowing of its Stream is scarcely perceivable. --*Vix credas labi*. It must be, that this Poet trusted to the Testimony of some One, who had inform'd him wrong.

Next follow diverse Remarks on the Churches of *Milan*, and the *Ambrosian* Library; which, as for the Generality those in *Italy* are, is more set off with Statues, Pictures, and other Ornaments of this kind, than by any Great Number of its Books. In this

† Lib. IV. 82. & seq.

Village is to be seen the Canon SET-TALA's Cabinet; wherein, among other Rarities, is a small Piece of Cryſtal, in which a couple of Drops of Water are enclos'd: which ſhews us that the Cryſtal, which was hollow and full of Water, clos'd and perfected its Formation before the Water was all gone. They ſhow ſuch a Cryſtal as this in *France*, among the *Benedictines* of *Vendosme*; who make the People believe, it is a Tear that our Saviour ſhed over *Lazarus*, and was gathered up by an Angel, who put it in this Cryſtal Vial to preſerve it. This Opinion has created a Diſpute in *France*, betwixt certain of the Learned; one Side engaging in Vindication of this holy Tear; and the other, with Reaſon, running it down, becauſe there is nothing in it more than the Work of Nature. CLAUDIAN, as our Author remarks, had ſeen a Curioſity of this ſort, upon which he made ſeveral *Epigrams*, one whereof, which is
 very

very sprightly and neat, he here inserts. I should account the Eccho more surprizing, that is at two Miles distance from *Milan*, and returns a Sound fix and fifty times ; if the Architect that made the Building, where it is heard, had known it would have produc'd this Effect, and had design'd it for an Artificial Eccho.

The Author makes here an agreeable Comparison, between the different Humours of the *French* and *Italians* ; which causes so great and almost insurmountable an Aversion between these two Nations. We may see a very remarkable Effect of it, in the ready Submission of the *Milanes* to the Arms of the *Imperialists*, * after the famous Battle of *Turin*, where Prince *EUGENE* of *Savoy* obtain'd a Victory, not to be paralell'd either in Ancient or Modern History.

* October the 7th, 1707. N.S.

3. Mr. ADDISON travell'd from hence to *Brescia*, to *Verona*, and to *Padua*. He does not fail to introduce here the Descriptions which the Ancient *Latin* Poets have made of the *Lago di Garda*, the *Mincio*, and the *Adige*; which He, according to his Custom, renders in very lively and beautiful Verses. He speaks in short of the principal Antiquities, that are to be seen at *Verona*; as of the *Amphitheatre* and *Triumphal Arch* erected to *FLAMINIUS*: To diversify his Matter a little, and give it an Air of Gaiety, he plays on the ridiculous Devotion paid to St. ANTHONY of *Padua*; and sets down at length, in *Italian* and *English*, a Sermon which this Saint made one Day to the Fishes, when the Hereticks would not regard his Preaching. It is extracted from the Life of St. ANTHONY, which is sold at *Padua*; and is stuffed with such strange Impertinencies,

nencies, that it would be incredible, if the Author had not produc'd the Original. 'Tis commonly said, that these sort of Things are calculated only for the Vulgar; but this Vulgar extends even to Persons of the first Quality, and they suffer these pious Frauds, even whilst they stifle the Doctrine of the Gospel.

4. After this you will find a short, but neat Description, of the Situation of the Town of *Venice*, and a considerable Number of Remarks on the *Laws and Customs* of the *Venetians*; on the irreparable Decay of their Commerce and Power; on the Danger they lie under of losing what yet is left them, if they had too Potent a Neighbour; on their *Politicks*, which appear at first view extravagant enough, to such as do not penetrate into them; particularly, in that they seem to fear nothing so much as the good Qualities of their Subjects. Tho' we

may have read something of the same kind in other Places, we shall not fail of reading with Pleasure what our Author here recounts ; by reason of the nice and easy Turn which he gives to this Matter, and the Short and Delicate Reflections he subjoins to it.

He approves only the Musick of their *Operas*, and exposes the Ridiculousness of them, as well as of their Dramatick Pieces ; which are but wretched Farces, full of lewd and witless Conceits. You will find on this Head many other Remarks, which will give you great Satisfaction to have read. The Author observed at *Venice*, an Art in a certain Sett of Men, who, mounting on each others Shoulders, build themselves up into a kind of Pyramid, and make a little Boy be hoisted uppermost, to represent the Point of the Pyramid. He afterwards describes this Sport in five Verses taken from CLAUDIAN, who speaks
of

of it, and which he translates into four *Engliſh* ones; he produces, likewise, the Encomiums which SANNAZARIUS has beſtow'd on *Venice*, and which he likewise has translated.

5. From *Venice* Mr. ADDISON took a Bark for *Ferrara*, *Ravenna*, and *Rimini*; upon which Places, if he has but little to obſerve, he embellishes that Matter, which might otherwiſe be ſomewhat dry, with agreeable Poetical Descriptions. He very judiciously remarks, that there is no Appearance of Probability in what the People of *Rimini* pretend, concerning the Pedestal of a large Pillar, on which they aſſure you JULIUS CÆSAR harangu'd his Soldiers: The *Suggestum* of the Ancients, from whence the Generals did ſo addreſs their Armies, appears to have been made of Wood, like a little kind of Stage, as he proves by certain Medals.

6. No Traveller having given any particular Account of the little Republick of St. MARINO, which stands on a Mountain at twelve Miles Distance from *Rimini*; the Author thought it his Business to describe it at length. She pretends to owe her Original to one St. MARINO, a *Dalmatian* by Birth, who liv'd about thirteen hundred Years ago. The Inhabitants of this Place, who spend their Lives amidst Snows and high Rocks, appear to be more happy in the Liberty which they enjoy, than the People of the Plains, and neighbouring Vallies; which are infinitely more fertile, and yet more thinly Peopled, by reason of the Arbitrary Power that reigns there.

7. The Author describes, after this, what he remark'd at *Pesaro*, *Fano*, *Senigallia*, *Ancona*, *Loretto*, and other Places of Note in his Way to Rome.

In

- In speaking of the *Triumphal Arch* at *Ancona*, erected in Honour of *TRAJAN*, he remarks that they set up the like *Arches* to their Emperours, not only on Account of Victories obtain'd, or of the Conquests they made, but likewise for some singular Benefits receiv'd from them. In reality the *Arch* at *Ancona* was erected to *TRAJAN*, as an Instance of their Gratitude for the Port he had made there; as he proves by a Medal, whereon this Beneficence is represented. It would be much better, likewise, to employ to some Establishment of Use, or to the Relief and Comfort of poor miserable People, those immense Treasures of Silver, Gold and Jewels, which are seen at Our Lady's House at *Loretto*; and which our Author found so surprizingly Great, as surpass'd his Expectations. 'Tis ridiculous to imagine that God and the Saints (supposing the latter to see what passes here below)

low) take Pleasure in beholding such Magazines of Wealth amass'd together, in the midst of a People so poor and distress'd, without being serviceable to any living thing: And it is in no kind excusable, because this Treasure is not kept to be made Use of, in case of any Great Calamity, as Mr. ADDISON believes the Pope would do. We may likewise say, that to consecrate Money to God or the Saints, without having a View of this Nature, would be a kind of Inhumanity much to be condemn'd; because it would be to withdraw the Means of Aid from the Miserable, under Pretence of giving it to those who have no Need of it, who require nothing like it, and who are even shock'd at such Presents.

In his Way from *Spoletto* to *Terni*, the Author saw the River *Clitumnus*, of which the Inhabitants have still the same Opinion, as heretofore, that there
is

is a particular Quality in its Water, of making Cattle White that drink of it ; which furnishes him with an Occasion of producing some Passages of the Ancient Poets, who speak of this River. He is not less mindful of the famous *Cascade*, which makes its Fall from the Lake *Velino*, about three Miles from *Terni*, whence it rushes down a Precipice of an hundred Yards high, into the Hollow of a Rock. Mr. ADDISON does not question, but this is the Gulf thro' which VIRGIL makes his Fury ALECTO shoot her self into Hell ; (*Æn.* 7. v. 563.) where he describes admirably well the Cascade, and Vally of *Amsanctus* in which it is seen : This Water falling from such an Height, and being convey'd under Ground, it finds its Way out from thence, and throws it self into the *Nera*, otherwise call'd the *Ner*. The Author joins to this a Description of the Journey that HONORIUS made from *Ravenna* to *Rome*, as you may find it in CLAUDIAN'S

DIAN'S Poem upon the 6th Consulship of HONORIUS, which is fine in itself, and which those who are any Judges of Poetry will find curiously translated.

8. After having spoke something of the Beauty of the Architecture of St. PETER's at *Rome*, which he only took a slight View of, the Author entertains us with his Journey by Land from *Rome* to *Naples*; where he found nothing so remarkably surprizing as the Beauty of the Country, and the extream Poverty of its Inhabitants; whereas, in the Heathenish times, it was peopled by incredible Multitudes, and those of prodigious Wealth. Tho' one would think that the Government of the *Pope* should be the most regular, and the best in the World, for this People; and that the *Campania* of *Rome*, should necessarily be enrich'd by the Money that is brought thither from all Parts; yet the very Genius of their Religion

Religion of that Country, which shews it self in all its Perfection in the *Pope's* Territories, is the sole Cause of the Poverty of the Place, as the Author clearly shews. The Reader will be full as strongly charm'd with reading his Considerations upon these Topicks, as with his Poetical Descriptions of the Places and Rivers which follow : tho' they are most agreeable to such as are Admirers of that Science.

9. The Author arriving at *Naples* in the Holy Week, was not less surpriz'd at the Pomp of their Processions, and the Zeal which the People express for Idle Ceremonies ; than at the Beauty of the Town, and the Rarities that are to be seen there. He has Reason to compare the pretended Miracle of St. JANUARIUS's Blood, which liquefied at the Approach of the Saint's Head, tho' as they say, it was hard congeal'd before ; with the Miracle
C which

which was * said to be done in a Village of the Kingdom of *Naples*, in HORACE's Time, where they affirm'd there was a Temple, in which the Incense was lighted without Fire.

The People are extream poor in the Kingdom of *Naples*, and particularly those that are in a State of Vassalage to the Barons, who are the Greatest Tyrants in the World to such as are under them. There is no Place that pays greater Taxes, and at the same time no Prince that draws less Advantage from them ; for almost all the *Gabels* are mortgag'd to private Persons, to pay the Interest of Sums which the Kings of *Naples* have borrow'd from Time to Time. You may see in this Author many other Remarks touching the Government of this Coun-

* See Horace, *Book 1. Sat. 4.*

try, which I can no more recite here than what the Antient Poets have said of *Naples*.

10. You will find next a Description of the Antiquities and Curiosities in Nature that are round about this Town, for seven or eight Miles ; as of the *Grotto* of *Pausilypo*, which is a Highway running thro' a Rock, undermin'd from one End to the other. The Author conjectures it was at first design'd for a Quarry, hewn only for the Stone, and that afterwards it was turn'd into a High-way. He makes likewise many Remarks upon *Puteoli*, *Baia*, the *Grotto del Cani*, Mount *Vesuvio*, the Lake of *Avernus*, &c. which will not displease such as shall read them.

11. The Author having staid a pretty while at *Naples*, could not dispense with himself from making a small Voyage to the Isle of *Caprea*, fa-

mous for the Retirement of **TIBERIUS**: He found only its Ruins, and very Noble Prospects, which he describes. He treats likewise of those scandalous Medals which he believes were struck by Order of **TIBERIUS**, to represent Lascivious Postures, and which are unworthy of Human Nature; and not that they were design'd by others, to render Him infamous. Besides, that it was not customary with the *Romans* to make Satyrical Medals, he is sure that many of this sort have been found in the Isle of *Caprea*; where, as every one knows, **TIBERIUS** resided for a long time.

12. After this, Mr. **ADDISON** very agreeably describes his Return by Sea from *Naples* to *Rome*; in which the Passages of the Poets are not omitted by him for the describing of this charming Coast, and as many celebrated Ports and Towns as were so heretofore.

13. He

13. He does not at all attempt to describe *Rome* ; but amongst the Antiquities of that Place he makes Choice of divers Statues, to which it seems that several *Latin* Poets have alluded, in the Passages which he produces ; so that every one understands them better by comparing what they say with these Statues. He gives you likewise the Reverse of a Medal struck in Honour of MARCUS ANTONINUS, where MARS and ILIA are represented in a Posture so conformable to what OVID in his *Fasti* relates † of the Manner in which MARS surpriz'd that *Vestal* sleeping ; that he thinks it probable, this Medal was made upon that Passage of the Poet. Every one will find this Discovery, and others of this kind extremely well devised ; but we cannot positively rest upon them. The Readers

† *Book III. v. 15. & seq.*

will easily apprehend by this, that a much better Use may be made of Statues than that of looking on them, and admiring their Beauty ; since by them we learn a great many things, without the Assistance whereof we should not ever understand the Ancients.

The Author believes, with Reason, that tho' they have discover'd an infinite Number of Statues at *Rome*, and round about it, there are still many more under Ground, and likewise in the *Tiber*, whose Bed they never yet could compass a Liberty of Cleansing ; as might be done, by turning his Course, for a time, into a new Channel : What is found in the Earth in such Spots as had never before been dug up ; give us Hopes, that in time we shall discover considerable Treasures, which are not hitherto brought to Light. Mr. ADDISON makes a Number of Remarks upon this Head, as
well

well as upon Medals, (amongst which is found the Fashion of Monuments, which are still in Being) and upon the Ancient Columns which are to be seen at *Rome*. The most remarkable Columns are those of *TRAJAN* and *ANTONINUS*; which are, as 'tis well known, hollow Pillars, with a Case of Stairs running up on the Inside, by which we may climb to the very Top.

Mr. *ADDISON* is of Opinion, that the Figure of *JUPITER PLUVIUS* sending down Rain on the fainting Army of *MARCUS AURELIUS*, and Thunderbolts on his Enemies, is the greatest Confirmation possible of the Story of the *Thundering Legion*: This Learned Man would apparently mean to say, that this Figure is a Monument of the Shower which fell on the *Roman* Army, and of the Thunder which confounded the *Germanians*; for as to the *Thundering Legion*, the Learned are agreed, that it had that Denomination long before
this

this Circumstance ; and that there is no Probability that it was entirely made up of *Christians*. See HENRY de VALOIS upon EUSEBIUS, *lib. 5. cap. 5.* and Father PAGI upon the Year CLXXIV.

For the rest, this Article of Mr. ADDISON's Remarks is extreamly instructive for those that have a Mind to go to *Rome*, and improve by the Antiquities there ; Nor can it fail of entertaining those Readers that have no Thoughts of such a Progress, but yet have a Taste for things of Antiquity.

14. After this the Author gives you a small Description of what he saw remarkable at *Tivoli, Frascati, Palestrina* and *Albano*, or on the Way to these Places. The Passages of such *Latin Poets* as have spoke of them, are not wanting to him on this Occasion ; no more than in his Description of diverse Places which he saw in his
Way

Way to *Sienna*. He produces a Prediction, that *LUCAN* makes in his 7th Book, of the Ruin of *Italy* by Civil Wars; which is seen more literally fulfilled at this Day:

————— *Tunc omne Latinum
Fabula Nomen erit.* ———

“ Almighty *LATium* with her Cities
“ crown’d,
“ Shall like an Antiquated Fable
“ found.

15. Mr. *ADDISON* likewise gives various Remarks on *Sienna*, *Leghorne*, and *Pisa*, which belong at present to his Highness the Great Duke of *Florence*; the Second whereof yeilds him greatest Profit, for the others are unpopulous, and have no Traffick.

16. The Author has not forgot the Republick of *Lucca*, which is shut up
D in

in the Great Duke's Dominions; and whose Territories are much better cultivated than their Neighbours, as their Inhabitants are also much richer: So true it is, that Liberty is the Mother and Nurse, if I may use that Phrase, of a People's Happiness. We may add on the other Hand, that it is the same with respect to the Rulers, who are more powerful, whilst they have free and contented Subjects, than when they are obey'd only by Slaves and Beggars.

17. Mr. ADDISON describes the Magnificent Gallery of the Great Duke of *Florence*, in a Manner that would inspire all the World with a Wish to go and see it. He admires above all the celebrated Statue of VENUS, which is a Master-piece; and has serv'd as a Model to a vast Number of others, as He has remark'd in his Article upon *Rome*. In speaking of the Great Duke's Library, he makes Mention
of

of a famous VIRGIL, that disputes its Antiquity with that of the *Vatican* : And remarks that the *Aeneid* begins with — *Arma Virumque cano* ; and that in the 2d Book it wants 22 Lines, beginning at 567, *Famque adeò super unius eram*, &c. Our Author thinks that TUCCA and VARUS, who corrected the *Aeneid*, left out this Passage with a great deal of Judgment ; as it seems to contradict a part in the 6th *Aeneid*, and represents the Hero in a Passion not at all becoming the Greatness of his Character. Mr. ADDISON subjoins very well, that the Apparition of VENUS, which immediately follows these Verses, comes in very properly to draw ÆNEAS away from an ugly Strait ; for without such a Machine, it would have been unpardonable in him to see PRIAM kill'd by PYRRHUS, and not attempt to revenge his Death. Besides this he thinks, with Reason, that if VIRGIL's Friends thought fit to let drop

these 22 Verses, wherein he describes *ÆNEAS* as doubting whether he ought to kill *HELEN* or no; they should likewise have retrench'd in *VENUS*'s Speech, the Words that have a Relation to the Rencontre, or the 601st Verse, and the two subsequent Words, *Non tibi Tyndaridis facies*, &c. This Article concludes with some Poetical Descriptions of the *Apennines*, which the Author inserts in *Latin* and *English*.

18. The following Article relates to *Bolonia*, *Modena*, *Parma*, *Turin*, and some adjoining Places. The Author saw at *Bolonia*, three remarkable Curiosities. The first was a Medal of *BRUTUS*, who kill'd *CÆSAR*, with the Cap of Liberty, and a Dagger on each side of it: on the Reverse subscribed *ID. MAR.* for the Ides of *March*, the famous Date of *CÆSAR*'s Murder. The second, was a Picture of *St. CECILIA*, by *RAPHAEL*; and the third, a
Stair-

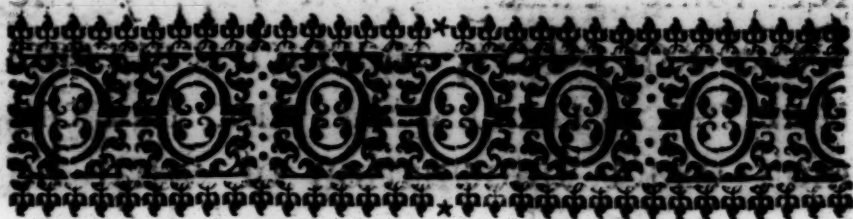
Staircase turn'd in a particular Manner. At *Parma*, he saw the Theatre and Gallery of the Duke, with his Medals; the scarcest of which is a *Pescennius Niger*, on a Medallion well preserv'd, and which was coin'd at *Antioch*. The Author being oblig'd to pass in Hast thro' these Places, he does not say much of them.

He concludes with three Articles, which I shall content my self only to mention: The 19th is of *Geneva*, and its Lake. The 20th is of *Fribourg*, *Bern*, and other Towns of *Switzerland*. The 21st is of *Tirol*, where he speaks of *Inspruck*, *Hall*, and some other small Places. Tho' what the Author says be very agreeable to read, I will not be particular on it, because there are not in those Parts any Curiosities, comparable to those of *Italy*.

Mr.

Mr. ADDISON has not a little applied himself to the Study of Medals ; the mystical Meanings of whose Reverses he has explained in a Work well worthy to be made Publick, and which I hope he will soon oblige the World with.

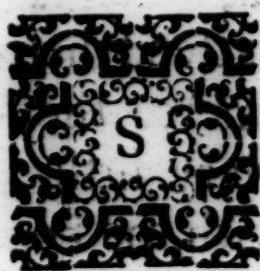
F I N I S.



Some ACCOUNT
OF THE
United Provinces
OF THE
NETHERLANDS,

By Way of Supplement to Sir WIL-
LIAM TEMPLE'S Observations, &c.

By Monsieur *Le C L E R C.*



IF WILLIAM TEMPLE'S
Observations are suffici-
ently known, and as they
have been deservedly re-
ceiv'd with an universal
Approbation, my Intention to make
them yet farther useful, is only to cor-
rect

rect some Passages, and supply the Defects of others, in which it appears that Sir WILLIAM has not had the most exact Information of what he has treated. It is not that I desire to enter into a Criticism on his Work, which is otherwise full of Spirit and good Sense, and deserves to be read with Application; or that I have not all the Esteem and Deference for the Author, which is owing to a Person of his Rank and Character. All that I intend to quote in his Book, consists of certain Facts, of which he has been mis-inform'd, either while he was in *Holland*, or since his Embassy there. It often falls out that the Ministers of Foreign Princes while abroad, either taken off by the Cares which attend their Function, or by the Commerce they have with them read but very little; and do not at all converse with the Polite Part of the Country, from whom they might draw great Lights and Advantages: So that they frequently
quit

quit the Places where they have staid a considerable while, without growing acquainted with them ; and consequently speak quite otherwise than they would do, if they had a little more visited the People of the Country. However what these Gentlemen say, passes for Incontestable Truth with those who are no better informed than Themselves. And if this happens, while the Authors are yet living, and that Errors might be easily rectified ; yet it is much worse, when the Opinion holds on quietly for some Ages. For then every one presumes that Men of their high Station have been exactly inform'd, that they had no Reason to dissemble the Truth ; and so draws Consequences from their Relations, and pronounces them in a Tone as confident and peremptory, as if they were built on *Axioms* in the *Mathematicks*, whereof they were the necessary Results. To do Posterity a Service, which past Ages have not attempted,

E tempted,

tempted, it would be well, if, from Time to Time, the recent Errors of the Ingenious were to be corrected in Matters of Fact, without insulting the Authors, or refusing them the Praises they deserve. 'Tis what I here aim at, in Regard to Sir WILLIAM TEMPLE, to whom I very freely render all the Justice which is due to him.

I. In his *Observations on the United Provinces*, after having with Judgment and Elegance describ'd the *Rise and Progrefs of their State*, in his first Chapter; he goes on in his second, to treat of *their GOVERNMENT*, and there is no Body but what must allow that the greatest Part of what he says of it, is very Just: But there are some Passages which are not so exact, nor yet altogether right. He assures us with Reason, *That every Town in Holland have several Marks of Sovereign Power within themselves, and are not*
sub-

subject to the Sovereignty of their Provinces: Of which he gives an evident Proof, which is, that they are not concluded in many Things by the Majority, but only by the universal Concurrence of Voices in the Provincial States. This is true, but it had been well to say in brief, it is then when the Concern is the making of any new Levy of Money, the making of Peace or War, or the changing the Form of the State. It is this which is express'd in a Law made by the States of *Holland* in 1581. as *GROTIUS* has fully made appear in the 8th Chapter of his *Apologetick*; which is the best Work that can be read, to teach you the Form of this State. Sir *WILLIAM* says very truly something in the following Terms; but he does not express it with sufficient Exactness. For as the States General cannot make War or Peace, or any new Alliance, or Levies of Money, without the Consent of every Province, so cannot the States Provincial conclude of any of

E 2

those

those Points, without the Consent of each of the Cities, that has a Voice in that Assembly.

The *States General* are, properly speaking, the States of all the Provinces assembled together, as Sir WILLIAM has very well remark'd ; tho' we in common give this Title to their *Deputies* at the *Hague*. And this Assembly, which very rarely meets, never imposes any Levies on the Seven Provinces, which have each a distinct Sovereignty. It is the Provincial States, who lay the Levies upon them, without any Communication with the States General, who are not any Ways concern'd therein. The Levies which these latter impose, are upon the conquer'd Territories, dependant on the Seven Provinces, on the Frontiers of the *Spanish Netherlands*. He should have added to this that the States General cannot make any Change in the State, without the Consent of all the
Pro-

Provinces, because the Provinces are independent on the Assembly, in what regards them in particular. The Book of GROTIUS, which I have named, explains this more fully.

2. Speaking of the BANK in Amsterdam, Sir WILLIAM TEMPLE says, *It is the greatest Treasure, either real or imaginary, that is known any where in the World.* He owns nevertheless a little after, that *Whosoever is carried to see the Bank shall never fail to find the Appearance of a mighty real Treasure in Bars of Gold and Silver.* But (adds he) the Burgomasters only having the Inspection of this Bank, and no Man ever taking any particular Account of what issues in and out, from Age to Age, 'tis impossible to make any Calculation, or guess what Proportion, the real Treasure may hold to the Credit of it. Therefore the Security of the Bank lies not only in the Effects that are in it, but in the Credit of the whole Town of Amsterdam.

This

This whole Discourse is proper to raise Suspitions in the Minds of such as do not know the *Bank of Amsterdam*, and the Method wherein it is govern'd : You must know then, that the *Bank of Amsterdam*, is not a *Loan* on which Interest is paid, but a *Depositum*, over which neither the State in general, nor the Town in particular, challenges any Right, more than over the Property of any private Man's Effects : It was first set up in 1609, and continued under the Direction of the Magistrates of *Amsterdam* till 1670, when their Direction thereof was confirm'd by an Ordinance of the States of *Holland* : The Town has no other Concern than to see in some Manner, that what every one brings in and deposits, be well and faithfully kept ; without ever touching it upon any Pretence whatsoever : For as she is the Guardian of this entrusted Treasure, so she is to see it forth

forth coming. There was a Proof of this in the Year 1672, when *France* had invaded a great Part of the *United Provinces*. The Merchants who had Monies here, fearing that the same conquering Power should proceed to make herself Mistress of *Amsterdam*, and seize on the *Bank*, call'd out their Effects. Every one had his Money paid without any Stop; and it was remark'd there were many Sorts of Affets, that had been there, when the *Town-House* was burnt down. If the coin'd Money had fell short, they would have distributed their Ingots; but when they were satisfied that there was no Delay in their Payment, other than the necessary Time for telling out the Money, and that they thought the *Town* out of Danger; every one replac'd his Cash with the *Bank*, because it is preferable to any private Security. And if any one demanded to be paid out of what was on Account his Due, let the Sum be what it would, they would

would pay it down, and never made any Refusal. The Truth is, there was a Loss in drawing out their Cash thus, and it was better to sell Stock against the Current Coin, which is of less Price than that of the *Bank*, by reason of the Convenience there is in having Money there, on a thousand Occasions, when they are obliged to make Payments out of the *Bank* Cash.

Besides there is no Money at all paid in at the *Bank*, without posting it upon the Books of Accompt, which are kept with an extraordinary Exactness. And there is no drawing out of any Thing but Ingots of Gold and Silver, or such other Kinds of Things, as are sold in Exchange for others; and these Equivalents are at the Instant placed in their Stead, and that to the Profit of the *Bank*, which is rather encreas'd than diminish'd by it. And they keep exact Accounts of all this, and no Body can draw out any Effects, with-

without Minutes taken thereof. 'Tis true, the Treasure is not open'd but in the Presence of one of the *Burgo-masters* ; but it is not true, that these Gentlemen, by their Authority, occasion the Issuing out of any thing whatever, without an Account taken of the same on the *Bank-Books*. They likewise every Year take a Review of the Stock in the Presence of that *Burgo-Master* who was last chosen in ; and they compare what they find with the then Accompts. Our Sovereign Masters are very far from entertaining Ideas of *Oriental* Power ; or of some *European* Princes, who conceive themselves the Proprietors of their Subjects Effects ; and that they have a Power of disposing the same as they please. Besides, in a Government like that of *Amsterdam*, there can be no drawing out of any thing from the Stock of the *Bank*, without replacing it, against the Consent of the *Council of Thirty-six* ; the Major Part of whom are interess'd in

F Sums

Sums of their Own ; besides that the greatest Share of their Friends and Families Ready Money, who are concern'd in Trade, is there. It being thus, we may well suppose, that these Gentlemen would never be easie to see their Own or their Friends Capital Stock withdrawn to assist the Government ; for which the Town of *Amsterdam* should stand the sole Security. Those who are acquainted with the GOVERNMENT of *Holland*, know very well, that there is no Corporation which stands responsible for others, and engages its whole Substance and more in their Service. There is no body that would contribute their best Effects, without drawing any Advantage thereby ; and traffick upon a Credit, that might easily sink, and even entirely fall, by some Accident of State, or a Discovery that there was not a Circumstance to make good the Loan. All that can be alledged is, that some in secret might draw from the Bank-Stock,

Stock, without acquainting the Persons interessed ; but this is impossible, in a great Number of People, and those whose Families and Friends are concerned in the Trust-Stock : An Attempt of this kind would be found out sooner or later ; and they that should have intermeddled without communicating it, would be expos'd to Suspicions which it would be difficult to know where would end : For in short, to draw Money from an immense Treasure, without keeping an Account and Witnesses to minute it, is an Action that leaves us to think the worst we can ; without a Possibility of taking off such Suspicions. There is none whatever, in a Republick like that, who would put it to an Hazard.

3. Tho' it be true, *that the Salaries of all the Great Officers of State are very small*, as Sir WILLIAM observes in his 2d Chapter, the Case is since alter'd. All the World knows, that the *Pensio-*

ner of Holland, for instance, could not subsist with 200*l.* a Year, and that he has a great deal more : But there is no need that I should enter into Particulars on this Head : Hèretofore, when Money was more scarce, and the Expence less extravagant, he could live with much less than he can now. It were better, perhaps, that they who serve the Towns of *Holland*, and the States, had All Advantages or Salaries proportionable to the Dignity of their Commissions ; instead whereof, the most Honourable are often the least gainful. It is there a Point of Policy, upon which they may have many good Reasons to act, which are not within my Sphere or Comprehension.

4. The *Harle-Maer* is not of *Fresh Water*, as Sir WILLIAM TEMPLE says, in his 3*d* Chapter. This Water is brackish ; but as it has no Communication with the Sea, it is not altogether so salt as that. This Lake,
and

and those other Saline Lakes that have been dried up in the Province of *Holland*, had their Rise only from the Inundations to which this Province is subject. It would be better that they would drain all their superfluous Water, leaving the great Canals for their Navigation ; than, in so small a Country, to lose so much Land by those many and unprofitable Pools of Water ; and that they should rather labour at making Dams, which could not be easily broken down. But the continual Wars, in which this Republick has been imbroil'd, and the mutual Jealousies of their Towns, have never given them Leave to attempt it.

5. In Treating of the TRADE of *Holland*, in his 6th Chapter, Sir WILLIAM says, that *never any Country Traded so much, and Consum'd so little* : He is mistaken with Regard to the Consumption of their Merchandize, and the Proof is plain ; it is, that this
Pro-

Province is prodigiously populous, and has always a great Number of Vessels at Sea : So that it necessarily follows, She must consume a great deal in proportion to her Grandeur, since a great many Commodities are required for the Feeding and Cloathing of so great a Number of People. The *Hollanders* are even oblig'd to buy from other Countries the greatest Part of what they consume ; as *Wheat, Salt, Wine, Aquavitæ, Cattle, Wool, Tow, Flax, Stone, Iron, Wood for Burning and Building, Coal, &c.* 'Tis true, however, that they sell more than they buy, because they have Magazines for all *Europe*, stor'd with necessary Merchandizes, which she has need of.

6. 'Twere to be wish'd, for this Country, that what Sir WILLIAM speaks of its *Frugality*, and *Moderation of Expences* were true. But the State of Things has been mightily alter'd within these Thirty or Five and Thirty Years ;

Years ; and Luxury has introduc'd it self, especially in the Chief Towns, to as great an Excess as in other Countries. Not but in the small Towns and Villages, the Remains of the Ancient *Hollanders* Frugality are still found.

7. Sir WILLIAM TEMPLE shews very well in the same Chapter, *that if the Trade of Holland should be ruined, it is no Consequence, that the Profit of course must fall to the Share of England ;* because the Money and Industry would disperse amongst the *Hans Towns*, or any other Parts. The Reflexions which he makes on this Head utterly subvert what a discontented Faction, and Enemies to the Publick Repose of *Europe*, have aim'd at insinuating in *England* ; that she would be a Gainer, by suffering the *United Provinces* to be invaded by the *French King*. He likewise makes it very evident, *that these Provinces, which are Flourishing under a Republick, would soon become a*
very

very mean Country under a Monarchical Power; as if the late King WILLIAM had become their absolute Sovereign. But there is one thing towards the End of his 6th Chapter, in which Sir WILLIAM was doubtless misinform'd: 'Tis where he says, *That he found it agreed by all the most diligent and circumspect Enquiries he could make, that in the Years 1669 and 1670. there was hardly any Foreign Trade among them, besides that of the Indies, by which the Traders made the Returns of their Money without Loss; and none by which the Common Gain was above Two or Three in the Hundred.* He had unquestionably applied to Some Person who manag'd his Affairs very Ill, or who was not willing to tell him the Truth; since it is certain, those Times were the most flourishing which can be remembered in *Holland*, and in which their Trade throve best; I have been inform'd by those who knew it perfectly well; and least any should in-
cline

cline to say, that Commerce flourish'd more, during the two Wars which have been since made with *France*, the former of which begun in 1672, and the latter in 1688, than it did during Peace ; (which is absurd to conceive) We must take Notice, that Traffick was no ways sinking at that Time ; because its Ruin would have been entirely compleated during the two late Wars ; and it could never have subsisted under the last : For tho' War may do it a considerable Injury, every one is convinc'd that it is not reduc'd to that Extremity (as Sir WILLIAM TEMPLE represents it in 1669 and 1670.) by the prodigious Quantity of Merchandizes they have, and the Prices at which they are sold : Such Rates could never be kept up, nor such large Stores amass'd, if there were no Return of Profit. But there is no Necessity that I should spend more time in refuting a Fact, the Falsity whereof is obvious to all such as have any Re-

G remembrance

membrance of the particular Time in Dispute.

8. I was surpriz'd in reading the 7th Chapter, wherein Sir WILLIAM TEMPLE discourses on *the Reasons of the Misfortunes which befel the United Provinces in 1672*, at the Time when *France* invaded them. He employs both his Theology and Politicks to discover the Causes, which the whole World knows, without finding them but with Pain. Their Misfortunes flow'd entirely from the Dissentions and Disagreement of those who govern'd the State ; of which we may find the History, or at least Part of it, in the *Life of RUYTER*, by GERARD BRAND. This Discord prevented their necessary Preparations of Defence, and Resistance of *France*, who easily entred a Country so destitute of Troops, that had no Army to oppose her Invasion, nor any Place well provided. Mr. PUFENDORF has slip'd into the same Fault,

Fault, in his *Introduction to the History of Europe*, as I have formerly remark'd.

9. It is very near the same, as may be Objected to Sir WILLIAM TEMPLE, with Relation to what regards the Republick: tho' I do not pretend to censure him rigorously, nor to criticize upon all those Passages to which I should have given a different Turn, if I had propos'd to write on the Subject he has done.

As to their RELIGION, he has a particular Observation, in the 5th Chapter, concerning the *Arminians*; which may lead such into an Error as are not prepossess'd with truer Notions. *The Arminians*, says he, *tho' they make a great Name among them, by being rather the Distinction of a Party in the State, than a Sect in the Church; yet are in Comparison of others, but few in Number, tho' considerable by the Persons, who are of the better Quality, the more*

Learned and Intelligent Men, and many of them in the Government. That which deceiv'd Sir WILLIAM is, that heretofore they call'd those *Arminians*, who defended the Laws and Privileges against the *Stadt-holders*; because, at the Time of the Synod of Dort, the *Arminians* were in that Party, if we may call the very Body of a State a Party: Tho' at other Times the People there have not closed in their Sentiments with the *Arminians*. But at the Time when Sir WILLIAM TEMPLE was in *Holland*, the *Arminians* made no Part in the State; and were only look'd upon, as at this Day, a Branch of the *Reformed Religion*, distinguish'd from those who are called *Calvinists*, by their Opinions in Divinity, which have no Relation to the Government of the State. The small Number that are Members of their Churches, and who bear some publick Offices, do not form any Party in the State, which distinguishes them from others;

others : The great Difference lies among the *Ecclesiasticks*, and in their *Doctrines*, as is evident by the Books of *Remonstrances*.

Sir WILLIAM is likewise mistaken, where he says in his Conclusion, *That in BARNEVELT's Time, the Principles of the Arminian Party were thought to lead them towards a Conjunction, or at least Compliance with the Spanish Religion and Government.* To speak exactly, he should have said, *That their Enemies wish'd it should be thought so ;* for they did not seriously believe it themselves, since the contrary was visible. The *'Apologetick* of GROTIUS has set this in so clear a Light, that there is no possible Room for a Doubt, after a Reading and careful Examination of him. It is likewise above fifty Years since the Distinctions of *Calvinists* and *Arminians* have been only *Theological* Distinctions, which ought to cease in a mutual Toleration ; not only

only in the *State*, but likewise in the
Church. This Toleration is in no
 Kind impracticable, since we see it e-
 stablish'd in the Church of *England*,
 where they live in Peace; though the
 Sentiments of their Divines upon *Pre-*
destination and *Grace*, are as much di-
 vided as in *Holland*. May God, above
 all, inspire, thro' the whole World,
 a sincere Love of Truth and Peace!



F I N I S.

